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Association of Friends, feel that it is our duty as Christian men and citizens to bring this question again to your attention.

"We believe the treaties that made possible the construction of the canal were made with the idea that the canal be policed, but not fortified; and that the erection of great forts and defenses is contrary to the spirit and tenor of such treaties, and will subject our Department of State to a suspicion of bad faith.

"An adequate police force maintained at the canal zone will protect the property interests involved from possible attack by neighboring states, and will leave the canal as a whole within the scope of the international convention that forbids the bombardment of unfortified places.

"The larger policy of international service and goodwill remains; and this, we believe, will be advanced, not by the fortification, but by the neutralization of the canal zone.

"The Panama Canal is the greatest single engineering feat of history. Its service to the world's trade and commerce will be truly significant if its completion signalizes the new era of international friendship and cooperation that is the significant fact of our times.

"Our country has been truly great in the past, as it has trusted in the moral and legal forces that govern alike the destinies of nations and the lives of individuals. It will grow in power and greatness as it follows in this path. The time is past when these views can be characterized as sentimental or utopian. The old bottles of militarism are no longer capable of holding the new wine of international cooperation and friendship.

"Without restating the arguments that already have been placed before you by other advocates, we appeal to you to oppose the fortification of the Panama Canal as the part of true patriots and Christian statesmen.

"(Signed) JOHN B. GARRETT, *President*,
"And others."

A Plea for a Peaceful Policy.

The following address to the President and Congress was presented recently by a committee of the Representative Meeting of the Philadelphia Friends' Yearly Meeting, consisting of Jonathan E. Rhoads, Charles S. Carter and Alfred C. Garrett. The committee were introduced to the President by Congressman Butler of Pennsylvania:

To the President and Congress of the United States: As believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, we feel ourselves called to advocate his rule at this important juncture in the affairs of our nation. Our governmental action, while growing nearer Christian standards, is not yet wholly in accord with the life and spirit of Christ. We are convinced that nowhere is it farther from him than in the increasing armaments and immense expenditures therefor which now obtain.

We especially deplore at the present hour the proposal to fortify the Panama Canal. This action will at once place that costly and invaluable work among possessions debatable by force of arms, a mark and a prize to be sought by violence as soon as opportunity occurs.

Just at this time, when many economies of government are being instituted, we can but profoundly regret the vast expense which must be added, in order to con-

struct, equip and maintain new fortifications on the Isthmus, and finally to man them by a large increase of the army, with all its added expenditure of public funds. And this is proposed when already the unparalleled proportion of *two-thirds* of the income of our government is being devoted to warlike purposes, past and present. We believe this use of money is neither just to the people, whose it is, nor right in the sight of God, whose stewards we all should be.

An example of disinterested service to humanity was given by the United States in organizing an independent government in Cuba instead of annexing the island. We do not approve the war measures by which control of Cuba was obtained, but being in control, we feel that our government labored generously for the best welfare of the people of that Island.

We urge that this policy be continued by similar disinterested service to mankind in Panama by opening the canal to the peaceful commerce of the world. Our motives will assuredly be subject to suspicion, as not being disinterested, if we fortify the zone of the canal.

To disarm all suspicion of self-interest, and secure the future from abuse of power, let us refrain from fortifying the canal, and secure its neutrality by international treaty only, much as was done with the Suez Canal.

Moreover "under the Hague Convention the nations are now under bonds not to bombard unfortified coast towns, ports, etc.," but if we fortify the terminals of the canal, it at once becomes exposed to attack, indeed invites attack.

In a word, we feel convinced that the modern method of attaining that which we profess, the honorable and righteous method, as well as the most economical, is firmly to establish the neutrality of the Panama Canal by treaty among the powers.

We would also earnestly represent the desirability of concluding a treaty with Great Britain to submit to arbitration all causes of dispute without excepting cases of "honor," regretting as we do the defeat of such a measure in our Senate when last submitted to it by the British government. May our Senate consider its responsibility in the sight of God before again obstructing a measure of such vital importance for the world's peace.

We earnestly request that you will use your efforts to make the action of our people through their government more nearly in accord with the teachings of Christ.

Compulsory Military Training in Australia.

Compulsory universal military service has at last been adopted in Australia. Provision is made that all male inhabitants who have resided in the country for six months and are British subjects are to be enrolled from twelve to fourteen years of age in the Junior Cadets; fourteen to eighteen years of age in the Senior Cadets; eighteen to twenty-five years of age in the Active Citizen Forces; twenty-five to sixty years of age in the Military Reserve Forces. The sons of those who have religious principles against war are exempt from military training and assigned to non-combatant duties.

One searches in vain for any reason for this unfortunate step. Australia has, up to the present time, been free

from war. There has never been invasion or even a threat of invasion. Why train the youth of a country against a danger which has no possible existence? It must all be charged up to the corrupting influence of British Imperialism.

Booklets and Pamphlets Received.

LOMMEBOG FOR DEN DANSKE INTERPARLAMENTARISKE GRUPPE. By Fredrik Bajer, Copenhagen, N., Denmark.

THE ORINOCO STEAMSHIP COMPANY CASE BEFORE THE HAGUE TRIBUNAL. By William Cullen Dennis. Reprinted from the *American Journal of International Law*, January, 1911.

BENJAMIN CONSTANT ET LA PAIX. With an introduction by Baron d'Estournelles de Constant. 72 pages. Paris: Delagrave.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONCILIATION INTERNATIONALE for 1910. 40 pages. Paris: Delagrave.

International Arbitration and Peace Lecture Bureau, 31 Beacon Street, Boston.

The following persons may be secured to give addresses before public meetings, churches, schools and other organizations, on international arbitration and peace. Those wishing their services should communicate directly with them as to dates and terms.

Mrs. Fannie Fern Andrews, 405 Marlboro St., Boston.
Rev. A. Eugene Bartlett, 2024 Washington Boulevard, Chicago.
Rev. Charles E. Beals, 153 La Salle St., Chicago.
Raymond L. Bridgman, State House, Boston.
E. Howard Brown, New Sharon, Iowa.
Arthur Deerin Call, Hartford, Conn.
W. C. Dennis, State Department, Washington.
Rev. Charles F. Dole, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Miss Anna B. Eckstein, 30 Newbury St., Boston.
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Prof. Benjamin H. Hibbard, Ames, Ia.
Hamilton Holt, 130 Fulton St., New York.

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